

***In the Claims***

1-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A method of applying a concrete-based mortar to a building comprising the steps of:

mixing a concrete-based mortar, an accelerant and water to form a resulting composition that hardens in approximately three hours time or less;

applying the resulting composition to an exterior of a building;

allowing the resulting composition to harden on the building for a time sufficient to prevent reformation of the composition; and

removing an exterior skin of the resulting composition after the step of allowing the resulting composition to set, wherein the step of removing the exterior skin of the resulting composition comprises scraping a rough trowel against the resulting composition to remove only the exterior skin, wherein the resulting composition has hardened sufficient to prevent uneven scraping and has hardened sufficient to prevent sticking

to the rough trowel, and wherein the resulting composition has a smooth and even surface after the step of removing the exterior skin.

22. (previously added) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of mixing a concrete-based mortar comprises mixing the concrete-based mortar having particles approximately 1 millimeter or greater in diameter.

23. (previously added) The method of claim 22, wherein the step of removing an exterior skin comprises scraping a rough trowel against the resulting composition to remove at least a portion of the particles approximately 1 millimeter or greater in diameter from the exterior skin but without removing subcutaneous mortar or particles.

24-25. (cancelled)

26. (previously added and allowed) A method of applying a concrete-based mortar to a building comprising the steps of:

mixing a concrete-based mortar, an accelerant and water to form a resulting composition that hardens in approximately three hours time or less;